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white and colored women respectively. It is little short of a statistical calamity that these rates cannot be stated in *terms of the population at risk* from these special causes of death, *i. e.*, of the number of women who have borne children during the period, or of the number of births; and that similarly in most American centers of population, it is equally impossible to state by an accurate method, the risks of child-bearing, or to compare one area with another in this respect, or the same area with itself in a series of consecutive years. Subject to this serious limitation, which Dr. Dublin properly laments, there is much that is instructive in this chapter of his book; and the statement that at child-bearing ages, puerperal conditions in their entirety represent a hazard to the life of women, which is second only to that from pulmonary tuberculosis at these ages, is an urgent call to the adoption of the well-known preventive and remedial measures which would bring child-bearing more nearly to its proper position as a normal physiological event, and not a condition involving risks which are far from negligible.

In the preceding notes a few points have been brought out in relief, which have particular public health importance. The list has not been exhausted. In the absence of national returns of mortality on a similar plan, every chapter of the book can be utilized by public health officials for comparing their local mortality experience with the experience of a large section of the total population of the United States. And apart from this sphere of utility, physicians interested in any particular class of disease will find here valuable data for comparison with the results of their own experience. The subject of each chapter is carefully and soberly set forth, the limitations of the data are adequately stated, and the reviewer has failed to find throughout the volume a single statement which is not amply substantiated by the valuable statistics accompanying it.

ARTHUR NEWSHOLME.

How to Make and Use Graphic Charts. By Allan C. Haskell, with introduction by Richard T. Dana. New York, The Codex Book Co., 1919. 539 pp.

The purpose of this book as stated by the author is twofold: "(1) By giving many illustrations, to suggest to those already familiar with the functions of graphic charts new ideas for the uses of the various rulings, and (2) to show those who have never used charts at all, or but little, the principles of their use and to explain as simply as possible the many advantages to be derived by becoming familiar with this method of presenting facts."

In carrying out this purpose the author devotes the first 50 pages to the theory and construction of the various types of charts, and the following section of about 25 pages to the discussion of the general principles underlying the use of charts. The main body of the book is divided into chapters according to the branch or activity of business in which charts are used. That is to say, the material has not been grouped by types of charts but rather by subjects which charts illustrate. Because of this arrangement the book will appeal to the reader as a new approach to the study of graphic methods.

The first four chapters of the main part of the book have to do mainly with business control. Their titles are, "Organization and Management Charts," "Cost and Cost Analysis Charts," "Scheduling and Progress Charts," "Operating Characteristics." In the next section of two chapters are found special uses of charts, under the headings: "Charts Showing the Results of Tests and Experiments," "Trends, Tendencies and Statistical Prediction Shown by Charts." The two succeeding chapters, one on computing charts and the other on the use of charts in designing and estimating, cover about 150 pages, and should be especially valuable to engineers and students. The final chapter describes miscellaneous uses of charts.

The book for the most part is a compilation of articles that have appeared in business and trade publications. A few have been taken from special reports. Even though the reader may have followed these same publications pretty closely during the past few years he will be struck by the wide range of the use of graphic methods as exhibited by the contents of this book. Most of the several hundred articles bear dates within the past two or three years. One comes from the year 1893, but few of them are older than 1917. More than forty publications are represented in the list of sources, and the text is profusely illustrated by charts and diagrams.

A compilation such as this is will be welcomed because the selection of the material has been made with a definite purpose in view, and because it preserves in permanent and convenient form many articles which the reader has previously read with interest and profit, and will want to read again. In many cases, parts of the articles not dealing with charts have been omitted without loss. At the end of each chapter is a bibliography of other articles dealing with subjects related to those treated in the chapter.

The individual articles are distinguished by indented, bold faced headings, which in two or three words tell what the article is about. The name of the author of the article, the publication in which it originally appeared, the date, and frequently the full title of the article follow the heading. These same headings are gathered together in an alphabetical index at the end of the book. It is therefore possible for the reader to find the topic in which he is interested either by looking for the heading under the chapter captions, or by going directly to the index. There is also an analytical table of contents.

The book is primarily useful to engineers, but it should also be valuable as a reference and source book to all who have occasion to employ graphic methods. The chapters on logarithmic and semi-logarithmic charts will be particularly welcome. To bring together in the same volume a wealth of material pertaining to both the so-called statistical chart and to the engineer's computing chart should mark an advance in graphic methods.

There are a number of typographical errors, and a better quality of paper would have improved the appearance of the charts in a several cases, but considering the vast amount of technical detail covered and the condition of the paper market both of these defects may be excused.

Arthur R. Burnet.

Applied Eugenics. By Popenoe, Paul, and Johnson, Roswell Hill. New York, Macmillan Co., 1918. 459 pp.

This book presents an excellent summary of the need for eugenics together with the evidence regarding eugenic problems, and outlines forcefully a rational eugenic program. For the most part, the conclusions will command ready assent. The argument for race improvement, wherever race improvement can be attained by eugenic methods, is of course unanswerable. The program set forth is moderate; the restrictive measures recommended are limited to cases in which evidence is conclusive, and the positive measures are mostly educational and are aimed to promote marriage among the fittest of the population.

An impressive array of evidence is presented to show the preponderating effect of heredity over environment. One doubts the wisdom of this emphasis on a controversial question which, in the light of a forward looking program, probably was never worth debating. It is a question not of alternatives, but of complementary programs. For persons now in the world, no change of heredity is possible; so far as they are concerned, progress is dependent upon environment. For future generations, race improvement is undoubtedly a factor in progress, and of course all possible improvement in the stock should be sought; for such improvement the evidence is almost wholly in favor of heredity. Except for a relatively small field where environmental changes produce dysgenic effects, the general question as to the relative values, so far as progress is concerned, of heredity and environment, is scarcely pertinent, since problems have to be solved not by generalities, but by the facts relating to the specific case.

In regard to one such case, exception may be taken to the conclusion reached by the two authors. It is argued that infant welfare work has a dysgenic effect in that the saving of weaker infants results in the deterioration of the race. But the evidence does not warrant such a conclusion. For the reduction of the infant mortality rate has not led to an increase in mortality at ages over one year, as the theory advanced would require, but on the contrary, has been accompanied by a reduction in mortality at practically all ages. The argument is very similar to that made in reference to vaccination and smallpox in the early nineteenth century. It was then argued that vaccination was of little use, since children—"with weak constitutions"—saved from smallpox would die anyway in a few years from some other disease; but experience has showed that the reduction in mortality from smallpox did not cause an increase in mortality from other causes. Nor should it be overlooked that the decrease in morbidity, which is usually associated with a reduction in mortality, is often an important factor in reducing mortality at later ages, since many of the diseases of childhood have serious after effects and leave those who survive with weakened constitutions.